

Serial No. To be assigned
Docket No. LWEP:104aUS
Prelim. Amdt. dated: December 8, 2003

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (new) An automated microscope system, comprising:
a microscope including a microscope stand; and,
a box including at least one control and power supply unit, said box arranged physically separate from said microscope stand and connected to said microscope stand by at least one connecting cable, said at least one control and power supply unit including at least one slide-in standardized circuit board to be used for various types of said microscope stand wherein said at least one slide-in standardized circuit board is used for controlling at least one motor or lamp housed within said microscope stand.

Claim 7 (new) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 6 further comprising:
an operating and computer unit connected to said box.

Claim 8 (new) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 6 wherein said box possesses the same physical dimensions regardless of the use of an upright or inverted microscope.

Claim 9 (new) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 6 wherein said box possesses the same shape and configuration regardless of the use of an upright or inverted microscope.

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Claim 10 (new) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 6 further comprising an illumination unit housed in said box, wherein said at least one connecting cable is a light guide that couples light generated by said illumination unit into said microscope stand.

Claim 11 (new) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 6 wherein said at least one motor is selected from the group consisting of a focusing motor, a drive knob motor, an aperture diaphragm motor, a field diaphragm motor, a stage X-direction motor, and a stage Y-direction motor.

Claim 12 (new) An automated microscope system, comprising:
a microscope including a microscope stand; and,
a box including at least one control and power supply unit, said box arranged physically separate from said microscope stand and connected to said microscope stand by at least one connecting cable, said at least one control and power supply unit including at least one slide-in standardized circuit board to be used for various types of said microscope stand wherein said at least one slid-in standardized circuit board is used for controlling at least one motor or lamp housed within said microscope stand, said at least one control and power supply unit further comprising a power supply for said microscope.

Claim 13 (new) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 12 comprising an operating and computer unit connected to said box.

Claim 14 (new) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 12 wherein said box possesses the same physical dimensions regardless of the use of an upright or inverted microscope.

Claim 15 (new) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 12 wherein said box

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possesses the same shape and configuration regardless of the use of an upright or inverted microscope.

Claim 16 (new) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 12 further comprising an illumination unit housed in said box, wherein said at least one connecting cable is a light guide that couples light generated by said illumination unit into said microscope stand.

Claim 17 (new) The automated microscope system as defined in Claim 12 wherein said at least one motor is selected from the group consisting of a focusing motor, a drive knob motor, an aperture diaphragm motor, a field diaphragm motor, a stage X-direction motor, and a stage Y-direction motor.